

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

16. (previously presented) A node-search method in a network, comprising the steps of:
a host of a first domain, acquiring a packet which includes routing information of a
network configured with a plurality of domains including the first domain connected to at least
one interworking unit;
the host, sending a broadcast packet, for requesting a response from a node which
provides a specific service, to at least any one of said plurality of domains other than the first
domain which is listed in said acquired routing information; and
receiving a response packet for said broadcast packet and detecting the node which sent
the response packet,
wherein a plurality of interworking units exist in the network, wherein at least one of said
plurality of interworking units is a bridge, a brouter, or a router, and
first sending the broadcast packet to at least one of said plurality of domains with the
fewest hop counts.

Claim 17 (canceled)